

ATLANTIC | News

Nova Scotia government workers who refused COVID-19 vaccine can return to work March 21



Allison Downing, a registered nurse, prepares the Pfizer-BioNtech COVID-19 vaccine at a vaccination clinic in Dartmouth, N.S. on Thursday, June 3, 2021. (THE CANADIAN PRESS/Andrew Vaughan)

The Canadian Press
Staff
[Contact](#)

Published March 10, 2022 3:10 p.m. EST

Share



HALIFAX - Public sector employees in non-high risk areas who refused to be vaccinated under Nova Scotia's COVID-19 mandates can return to the job when all remaining public health restrictions are lifted.

Colton LeBlanc, the minister responsible for the Public Service Commission, confirmed following a cabinet meeting today that 84 civil servants can go back to work March 21 when restrictions including the indoor mask requirement for public spaces are dropped.

However, Health Minister Michelle Thompson says there are no plans to allow unvaccinated health employees to return to work.

CORONAVIRUS COVERAGE

- [Tracking every case of COVID-19 in Canada](#)
- [Coronavirus vaccination tracker: How many people in Canada have received shots?](#)
- [Ontario will lift most COVID-19 mask mandates on March 21, top doctor says](#)
- [What is an 'adverse event?' Inside the recently released report on Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine](#)
- [COVID-19 cases, deaths continue to drop globally, WHO says](#)
- [Is it too early to lift mask mandates? The head of Ontario's COVID-19 science table thinks so](#)
- [After 549 days in 9 hospitals and facilities with COVID-19, this man is finally home](#)
- [COVID-19 can damage brain tissue, U.K. study suggests](#)
- [WHO says COVID-19 boosters needed, reversing previous call](#)
- [Experts advise against waiting for Omicron-specific](#)

Experts advise against waiting for children-specific vaccines

- 'This will have a massive impact': Blood tube shortage could limit non-essential tests
 - Scientists identify new gene differences in severe COVID-19 patients
 - As COVID-19 cases go from 1 to 24,000, New Zealand changes tack
 - Full coverage at [CTVNews.ca/Coronavirus](https://www.ctvnews.ca/Coronavirus)
-

Currently, being vaccinated for COVID-19 is a condition of employment by Nova Scotia's health authority, including for all new hires.

In early December the province reported that more than 1,000 public sector and government workers had been placed on unpaid leave, including 963 workers in front-line health care, continuing care, education and corrections.

LeBlanc says a number of civil servants who were initially placed on leave were allowed to return to work after getting vaccinated, although he couldn't give a specific number.

This report by The Canadian Press was first published March 10, 2022.

🚩 Report an error

🛡️ Editorial standards & policies

📰 Why you can trust CTV News

ADVERTISEMENT